



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 3/24/2004

GAIN Report Number: MX4040

Mexico

Livestock and Products

Mexico BSE update (fourth edition)

2004

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Report Highlights:

Once again, the Government of Mexico (GOM) has modified import requirements for U.S. Pet Food. The latest revision establishes a number of new provisions related to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) controls that were not required in the import requirements reported in MX4036. Exporters must comply with the new requirements and import permits obtained under the previous provisions are no longer in effect as of March 23, 2004.

Includes PSD Changes: No

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Unscheduled Report

Mexico [MX1]

[MX]

Requirements for Pet Food Modified

The GOM has again modified its import requirements for U.S. pet food. On March 23, 2004, Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) through an internal official memorandum, announced the modification of pet food import permits (*Hoja de Requisitos Zoosanitarios*, HRZ.) SAGARPA also indicated by internal memorandum that all previous HRZs (see MX4036) are no longer effective.

SAGARPA increased the number of BSE free countries, from which, raw materials can be sourced for the preparation of animal feed by adding Argentina, Chile and Uruguay to the original list. Previously, only Australia and New Zealand were listed. Additionally, SAGARPA established a number of new requirements on U.S. producers of pet food relating to BSE controls. This HRZ must be used when importing all kind of animal feed, whether for large or small animals.

A courtesy translation of current HRZ is provided for reference. In the event of any discrepancies, the original Spanish version will serve as the requirement listing of record.

ZOOSANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPORTS

Specie:	Any
Product:	Animal Feed
Country of Origin:	United States of America
Country of Shipment:	United States of America
Combination:	1-196-USA-USA

LEGEND:

Present the original sanitary certificate issued by the authority in the Country of Origin indicating:

1. That the animal raw materials with which the product was prepared were originated in the country stipulated in the certificate of Origin or that it was legally imported from countries free of BSE. Argentina, Australia, Chile, New Zealand and Uruguay are considered BSE free countries.
2. That the products do not contain ruminants protein or any other ingredient of ruminant origin, except milk and milk proteins, gelatin and collagen (prepared exclusively from skin and leather), un-protein tallow (with a maximum of 0.15% non soluble impurities) or that it contains proteins from ruminants of countries free of BSE.
3. That the flour of animal origin with which the animal feed was elaborated comes from an rendering plant approved by the SAGARPA (NOM-060-ZOO-1999) or, if meat from ruminant originated in the United States or Canada is used for the elaboration of balanced food, it would be allowed only under the following requirements:
 - a) That the animals from which the product was obtained were slaughtered in authorized installations by the qualified authority, certifying that only animals under 30 months of age are slaughtered in such facilities or that the plant

- counts with acceptable “complete segregation” procedures that allows the identification and selection of products to be exported.
- b) That the product was obtained from animal under 30 months of age determined by records that show the age of the animal or through postmortem inspection, verifying that the animals from whom the product was obtained, have two incisive teeth or less.
 - c) That the animals, from whom the product was obtained, were not stunned by means of intra cranial cavity gas injection or by cutting off the spinal cord (laceration through the introduction of a lacerating tool into the cranial cavity.)
 - d) That the product to be exported does not contain meat trimmings, meat from advanced meat recovery, mechanically separated meat and ground meat.
4. That the plant where the balanced food is elaborated has: records of each of the lots of acquired raw material of animal origin and records of sales of animal feed stuff (NOM-060-ZOO-1999).

OTHER REQUIREMENTS TO FULFILL

5. Present original and copy of the certificate of quality control from the producer company. The personnel from the Office of Inspection of Animal and Plant Health will keep a copy for its records.
6. When in the formulation of the product un-protein tallow from ruminant origin is included, the importer should present for each lot a certificate of quality control given by an independent laboratory, which indicates that the included tallow in the product contains a maximum of 0.15% insoluble impurities.
7. Copy of the document that legally covers the registration of the product (*TARJETON, card*) issued by the Office of Inspection of Animal and Plant Health, and in case that the card was issued one year behind, a quality judgment statement of the product issued by an authorized Veterinary approved as verification unit, or by an authorized Veterinary in the area of industrial establishments (area 08), merchant or commercial (area 09), which will be in force for 12 months beginning the expedition date (Agreement of Rules Improvement, published in the Official Diary of the Federation on July 23, 1999; Federal Law of Animal Health published on June 12, 2000), should be provided. Animal feed stuff imported for self consumption are exempt from complying with this requirement but must be subject to the fulfillment of the other requirements indicated in this sheet of zoo sanitary requirements (HRZ) and to the presentation before the inspection officer of Animal and Plant Health, of an official letter issued by the Imports & Exports Services and Cattle Certification Direction, assigned to the General Direction of Animal Health, SAGARPA, in which the maximum amounts and the authorized products must be indicated. Such document should be cancelled and retained in the Office of Animal Health Inspection located in the point of enter.
8. The concentrated and animal feed products prepared with ingredients of vegetal origin, fish flour, added either with/without vitamins and or minerals, are exempt of complying with the requirements related to the registry and the presentation of a quality certificate issued by a Veterinary authorized as a verification unit or by an authorized Veterinary in the area of industrial establishments. Also, are excluded from the requirements indicated in points 1 to 4.

9. The personnel from the office of Inspection of Animal Health will verify that the card and/or the label of the manufactured show the composition of the product. When the product is presented labeled and contains ruminant protein, it must exhibit a legend indicating that the use in ruminant nutrition is prohibited. The labeled product intended for use in ruminants nutrition, should indicate the animal species from which the product was elaborated.
10. The shipping and the documentation should comply with the dispositions established in Article 24 of the Animal Health Law.
11. In the case of animal feed for ruminant use, IMPORTATION IS NOT AUTHORIZED, if during the physical or document inspection it is detected that the product to export has ruminant protein or any other ingredient of ruminant origin, except milk and milk proteins, gelatin and collagen (prepared exclusively with skin and leather), un-protein tallow (with a maximum of 0.15% of insoluble impurities.)